

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Gordon et al.

Filed: 18 January 2000

Serial No.: 09/484,577

For: Nucleic Acids for the Diagnosis and  
Treatment of Giant Cell Arteritis (Amended)

Art Group: 1644

Examiner: Jessica H. ROARK

Atty Docket: 034044.035US0 (2000-228-1)

Formerly 07419-029001

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116****Via Fax 703-872-9306**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed 12 May 2003, the response to which was set to expire on 12 August 2003. A Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time is submitted herewith to extend the due date to 14 October 2003 (the 12<sup>th</sup> was Saturday and the 13<sup>th</sup> was a Federal holiday). The pending claims, claims 1-3, 9, 10, 14, 28, 29, 43, 45, and 51-62 were rejected. Reconsideration and entry of the following amendment are respectfully requested.

**AMENDMENT****In the Specification:**

On page 22 of the Specification, please amend the last paragraph as follows:

Paradigms to design degenerate primer pairs are well known in the art. For example, a COnsensus-DEgenearte Hybrid Oligonucleotide Primer (CODEHOP) strategy computer program is accessible as <http://blocks.thre.org/eodehop.html>, and is directly linked from the BlockMaker multiple sequence alignment site for hybrid primer prediction beginning with a set of related protein sequences, (see, e.g., Rose (1998) Nucleic Acids Res. 26:1628-1635; Singh (1998) Biotechniques 24:318-319).

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